

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
21 May 2004 (21.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/041205 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:
C12N 15/63, 15/85

C07H 21/04,

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/035139

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:

4 November 2003 (04.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/423,690 4 November 2002 (04.11.2002) US

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:

US 60/423,690 (CON)
Filed on 4 November 2002 (04.11.2002)

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
16 September 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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WO 2004/041205 A3

(54) Title: HA4, A NEW OSTEOBLAST- AND CHONDROCYTE-SPECIFIC SMALL SECRETED PEPTIDE, COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE

(57) Abstract: A polypeptide designated HA4, expressed selectively by bone tissue, is provided. Transgenic animals that fail to express HA4 have bone formation abnormalities reflective of osteoporosis. Also provided are methods for promoting bone formation by increasing the activity or expression of HA4, methods of diagnosing or treating bone degenerative diseases, and methods of screening for drugs that alter bone formation.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/35139

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C07H 21/04; C12N 15/63, 15/85
US CL : 536/23.1, 435/320.1, 325

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 536/23.1, 435/320.1, 325

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

STN: EMBASE, BIOSIS, CAPLUS, STIC SEQUENCE SEARCH

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category ^a	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Database GenCore, Accession Number, BD005704, JP 2001029090, ITO et al., Novel Polypeptide. January 2002.	11-20

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 April 2004 (30.04.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

23 JUL 2004

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